

**KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR  
INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND OTHER  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
DECEMBER 10, 2021  
SUMMARY NOTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Carrie Banahan, Deputy Secretary  
Wendy Morris, Commissioner  
Pam Smith for Lisa Lee, Commissioner  
Kim King, Representative  
Brandon Griffith  
Robert Napolilli  
Clayton Carroll  
Kathy Sheppard-Jones  
Kellie McCain  
Karen Herdina  
Andrew Venetianer  
Annette Jett  
Julie Sweets  
Kim Ziegler  
Catherine Buncher  
Graham Maupin

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Julie Raque-Adams, Senator  
Tina Bojanowski, Representative  
Cora McNabb  
Steve Shannon  
Gretta Hylton

**OPENING REMARKS**

Deputy Secretary Banahan opened the Zoom meeting and welcomed Commission members and members of the audience.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the September 10, 2021 quarterly meeting were approved as submitted.

**REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The September recommendation from the Community Education and Outreach Committee (CEOC) for the Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DDID) to allocate a position to serve as a transportation help desk was forwarded to the Department of Medicaid Services, Division of Policies and Operations (DPO). The recommendation exceeded DDID's programmatic expertise and the agency's fiscal resources. Leadership from DDID and DPO agreed the position is not a viable option at this time. DPO contracts with the Department of Transportation to maintain the program for all Medicaid recipients. It is the suggestion of DDID and DPO that the committee collaborate with other members of the Commission, such as the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Human Development Institute.

Dr. Kathy Sheppard-Jones, chair of the Commission's Employment Committee and Executive Director of the Human Development Institute, stated her willingness to collaborate with Karen Herdina and the CEOC on the transportation issues.

A copy of the original recommendation and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services' response was included in the member meeting packet.

## **NATIONAL CORE INDICATORS RESULTS**

Laura Butler presented the National Core Indicators (NCI) Data and the Quality Improvement Recommendations. The NCI program is a voluntary effort by each state to track performance using a survey with nationally validated measures. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2019-20 survey data was unexpectedly abbreviated with all data collection stopped on April 15, 2020. Therefore, data from 2019-20 should not be used in to compare to previous years. The Quality Improvement Committee will distribute the recommendations report to interested parties. The 2020-2021 data collection tool included a COVID-19 supplement in addition to the regular survey questions. For more information regarding Kentucky's results, please visit: <https://www.kentuckycq.org>. Laura Butler may also answer inquiries and can be reached at [laura.smith2@uky.edu](mailto:laura.smith2@uky.edu).

## **DEPARTMENT FOR MEDICAID SERVICES (DMS) UPDATES**

Alisha Clark from the Department of Medicaid Services presented on the on-going efforts within the Division of Community Alternatives related to waiver updates.

## **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (HDI) UPDATES**

Dr. Kathy Sheppard-Jones, Executive Director of HDI, provided an update on the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) National Training Center. MHDD is a collaboration between the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the University of Kentucky, University of Alaska Anchorage, and Utah State University. Established in 2018 through funding provided by the Administration for Community Living, the center aims to improve mental health services and supports for people with developmental disabilities by creating trainings, resources, and highlighting lived experience of people with developmental disabilities and mental health conditions. By also serving as a national clearinghouse, they help provide access to the most current evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally responsive practices that address the mental health needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. Please reach out to Kristen Dahl at [Kristen.dahl@uky.edu](mailto:Kristen.dahl@uky.edu) for more information.

On Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, HDI will be hosting a 30-minute seminar titled "Well-Being in the Workplace." To register please visit: <https://hdi.uky.edu/event/well-being-in-the-workplace>.

Please remember to check the Institute's home page at <https://hdi.uky.edu/> for upcoming seminars, trainings, and new products across an array of programs.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **Employment Committee**

Dr. Kathy Sheppard-Jones presented an update on the work of the Employment Committee. During their November committee meeting, Katie Whaley presented an overview of the Employment First Council as well as the KY APSE, which is a membership organization that works for advanced employment equity for people with disabilities. The chapter in Kentucky hosted a Virtual Conference on December 9, 2021.

In addition to the Employment First and APSE initiatives, the committee also heard from Christina Espinosa Bard on the availability of technological tools used to access education, employment, recreation or communication to live as independently as possible as well as devices and aids, which can help a person with a disability, perform activities that might otherwise be difficult or not possible. These work to increase participation in activities of daily living, enhance independence, improve social interaction, and make communication more effective. Assistive technology is available through the Kentucky Assistive Technology Services (KATS) Network. KATS Network is one of 56 statewide assistive technology programs federally funded under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. The mission is to make assistive technology easily obtainable. The website is <https://www.katsnet.org/>.

### **Community Education and Outreach Committee**

Karen Herdina provided an update on the work of the Community Education and Outreach Committee. This committee continues to meet on a routine basis and has devoted much time on the difficulties associated with the availability of accessible transportation to meet person-centered needs of individuals with disabilities. During their most recent meeting the committee heard from Marnie Mountjoy from the Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL). Ms. Mountjoy works with the Michelle P. Medicaid Waiver programs and was able to provide some insight to the committee members that will help guide their future work related to transportation services. The committee continues to work with Jeremy Thompson with the Department of Transportation regarding a variety of concerns related to transportation services.

### **Health/Wellness Committee**

Bob Napolilli conveyed the Health/Wellness Committee were unable to meet during the quarter.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments from members of the general audience.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Deputy Secretary Banahan reminded members the next meeting will be held March 11, 2022. Please remain prepared to continue meeting virtually. Meeting adjourned.